

## CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

- 5 1. A device for supporting a woodwind musical instrument on a neck of a user, comprising:
  - a strap for looping around the neck; and
  - a brace forming a closed loop that presents at least three inside contact points, the three inside contact points delineating a support circle for receiving the instrument
- 10 10. therein, the brace further forming at least two distinct tying sections, in which ends of the strap are tied to the tying sections without any portions of the strap intruding in the support circle.
2. The device of claim 1, in which
- 15 15. the tying sections are formed opposite each other on the brace.
3. The device of claim 1, in which
4. the ends of the strap are tied around the tying sections.
- 20 20. 4. The device of claim 1, in which the brace forms a first part perimeter that includes the inside contact points, and a second part perimeter that corresponds to the tying sections.
5. The device of claim 1, in which
- 25 25. the closed loop presents an internal surface that is tapered.
6. A device for supporting a woodwind musical instrument on a user, comprising:
  - a strap for looping around a neck of the user; and
  - a brace forming a closed loop for receiving the instrument therein, the brace further forming two tying openings distinct from each other,
- 30 30. in which ends of the strap are passed through the tying openings and are enlarged to be prevented from exiting therefrom, without any portion of the strap intruding in the closed loop.

7. The device of claim 6, in which  
the tying openings are formed opposite each other on the brace.

5 8. The device of claim 6, in which  
the brace is shaped such that an inside surface of the closed loop is cylindrical.

9. The device of claim 6, in which  
the brace further includes a skirt transverse to a plane of the tying openings.

10 10. The device of claim 6, in which  
the closed loop presents an internal surface that is tapered.

15 11. The device of claim 6, in which  
the ends are enlarged by being tied in knots upon themselves.

12. The device of claim 6, in which  
the ends are enlarged by being heated.

20 13. A method for making a support device for a woodwind instrument comprising:  
procuring a strap having two ends;  
procuring a brace forming a closed loop that presents at least three inside  
contact points, the inside contact points delineating a support circle for supporting the  
woodwind instrument therein; and  
25 attaching the two ends of the strap to respective tying sections of the brace  
such that no portion of the strap intrudes in the support circle.

14. The method of claim 13, in which  
attaching one of the ends includes tying a knot around the tying section.

30 15. The method of claim 13, in which  
a tying section includes a tying opening, and  
attaching includes passing the end of the strap through the tying opening, and  
then enlarging it to prevent it from being withdrawn from the tying opening.

16. The device of claim 15, in which  
the end is enlarged by being heated.
  
- 5      17. The device of claim 15, in which  
the end is enlarged by being tied in a knot upon itself.